# Govt denies internet slowdown, blames excessive VPN usage for disruptions

State Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, has

denied claims that the government slowed down or blocked internet services, attributing recent

disruptions to the increased use of Virtual Private Networks (VPNs). In a press conference, Shaza

Fatima emphasised that the government is committed to improving the country's IT

infrastructure and attracting more investment in the sector. The minister also announced the

creation of the National Digitalisation Commission and plans to establish IT parks in Islamabad

and Karachi. Shaza Fatima also highlighted the government's efforts to partner with tech giants

like Google and Meta to provide certifications for children and mentioned the launch of the Bridge

Start Programme with a budget of Rs1 billion to support innovative projects. Addressing public

concerns, Shaza Fatima acknowledged the frustration caused by internet disruptions and assured

that steps are being taken to prevent further issues. She explained that the surge in VPN usage led

to increased pressure on internet services, causing disruptions.